

EXPORT TO BOTSWANA OF DIAGNOSTIC SPECIMENS - 7124EHC

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF THE OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

Associated Documents: 7124EHC and 372DMR

IMPORTANT

These notes provide guidance to Official Veterinarians (OV) and exporters. The NFG should have been issued to you together with export certificate 7124EHC. The NFG should not be read as a standalone document but in conjunction with certificate 7124EHC. We strongly suggest that exporters obtain full details of the importing country's requirements from the veterinary authorities in the country concerned, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE

This export health certificate, 7124EHC, may be used for the export of diagnostic specimens for laboratory use including blood, tissues, organs and viruses from the United Kingdom to Botswana providing that it meets the conditions specified in the valid import permit for the consignment issued by the competent authority of the Republic of Botswana.

2. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN (OV)

This certificate may be signed by an OV appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

OVs/AVIs should sign and stamp the health certificate with the OV/AVI stamp in any colour **OTHER THAN BLACK**.

Certified Copy Requirements - England, Wales and Scotland

Guidance concerning return of certified copies of EHCs has changed and only specific certified copies are required to be returned to the APHA. Certifying OVs must return a certified copy of EHCs only for the following EHC types:

- if the exported commodity is cattle, pigs, sheep, goats or camelids;
- if the certificate was applied for manually and the application documents have been emailed to APHA and not applied for via the Exports Health Certificates Online (EHCO) system.

Certified copies should be emailed on the day of signature to the Centre for International Trade Carlisle (CITC) at the following address: certifiedcopies@apha.gov.uk.

For certificates that have been issued to the Certifying OV via the EHCO system, the Certifying OV must complete the certifier portal with the status of the certificate and the date of signature.

A copy of all EHCs and supporting documentation certified must be retained for two years.

Certifying OVs are not required to return certified copies of other EHCs issued, however CITC may request certified copies of EHCs and supporting documentation in order to complete Quality Assurance checks or if an issue arises with the consignment after certification.

DAERA Export Health Certificates: provision of certified copies

Authorised Private Veterinary Practitioners (aPVPs) certifying DAERA Export Certification On-Line (DECOL) produced EHCs must return a legible, scanned copy of the final EHC to the relevant DAERA Processing Office within 1 working day of signing.

Good quality photographic copies will be accepted by the Department where obtaining a scanned copy is not feasible - for example, where 'on site' certification is undertaken and scanning facilities are not available.

For record purposes, a copy of the final Export Health Certificate and associated Support documents should be retained by the aPVP for a period of 2 years from the date of certification.

The Department will carry out periodic audits of all aspects of export certification to ensure that a high standard of certification is being maintained.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PRODUCTS

Paragraph I(a) refers. The Official Veterinarian must check records provided by the exporter to confirm the nature of the product and that any relevant processes or procedures relevant to bio-containment have been applied to the material in the consignment. For example if the consignment contains an inactivated virus that causes epizootic disease (such as FMD virus), the Official Veterinarian must check records to confirm that the inactivation process(es) involved have been applied to the material in the consignment for export. These checks can be carried out by reference to records provided by the exporter and by sight of a signed declaration from a Veterinarian.

4. Paragraph IV 1 may be certified on the basis of familiarity with the procurement, processing and handling procedures in place at the manufacturing establishment and/or examination of relevant records.
5. Paragraph IV 2 and 3 may be certified on the basis that the certifying OV has physically inspected and sealed the leak-proof containers containing the product and has entered the relevant seal numbers in the space provided at paragraph IV 2. In addition, the certifying OV should make due enquiry to confirm that the consignment is to be transported in the containers he/she sealed and that the consignment is intended for dispatch to the testing/research institute specified in paragraph IV 3. If necessary this can include references to written declarations from an authorised signatory of the exporter or manufacturer of the consignment. If used, OVs should retain copies of these declarations for record purposes.

6. DISCLAIMER

This certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time, and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the APHA Centre for International Trade, Carlisle or DAERA, via the link or e-mail address below:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/contact-apha>

DAERA - Email: vs.implementation@daera-ni.gov.uk

